

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 9-23 are now present in this application. Claims 1 and 19-21 are independent. Claims 5, 7 and 8 have been canceled, claims 21-23 have been added, and claims 1, 2, 6, 9-12, 16, 19 and 20 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document (as indicated in the previous Office Action dated March 28, 2005).

Information Disclosure Citation

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the references supplied with the Information Disclosure Statement filed October 28, 2004, and for providing Applicants with an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form filed therewith.

Drawings

Since no objection has been received, Applicants assume that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation thereof in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

Specification Amendments

Applicants have amended the specification to correct minor informalities, and to place the specification in better form.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 8-11 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in this application. In light of this indication, Claim 1 has been amended to include subject matter similar to that as recited in claims 7 and 8. Independent claim 20 has also been amended in a similar fashion. Claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 19 and 20 and each of the claims depending therefrom are allowable and that the rejections noted in the Office Action are moot.

New Claims 21-23

New claims 21-23 have been added to set forth the invention and Applicants submit the new claims are supported by the originally filed specification. In more detail, new claim 21 is directed to an air conditioner including a cabinet including a top surface having an inlet connectable with a duct for introducing air into the cabinet, and an outlet connectable with a duct for discharging air from the cabinet a blower provided in the cabinet to draw air through the inlet and to discharge the air to the outlet, and a heat exchanger provided in the inside of the cabinet to perform a heat-exchange process with the air flowing in the cabinet. Also included is a barrier provided on the inside of the cabinet and between the inlet and the outlet to draw the air of the indoor room through the inlet to the outlet and to form a U-shaped air passage within the cabinet in which the air is drawn through the inlet, passes through the U-shaped air passage, and is discharged through the outlet on the top surface of the cabinet. New claims 22 and 23 depend on claim 21 and recite varying features of the invention.

These features are supported by the specification at least by Figures 8 and 9 and the corresponding description in the specification. In more detail, as shown in

Figure 9, the barrier 200 divides the inside space of the cabinet 100 into a first flow passage 101 for the air supplied from the indoor room to the inside of the cabinet 100 through the inlet 131, and a second flow passage 102 for the air discharged through the outlet 132. The first flow passage 101 is in communication with the second flow passage 102 at an inner lower part of the cabinet 100. Accordingly, the air supplied through the inlet 131 flows along a U-shaped passage inside the cabinet 100, and then the air is discharged through the outlet 132 (see also paragraph [0069]). Thus, the air flows in a simple configuration allowing the air conditioner to be compact.

On the contrary, as shown in Draper et al., for example, the air flows are not in a U-shape (see Figures 4-7 and the corresponding descriptions). The same is true in Sulka et al.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claim 21 also defines over the applied art.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone James T. Eller, Jr., Registration No. 39,538 at (703) 205-8000.

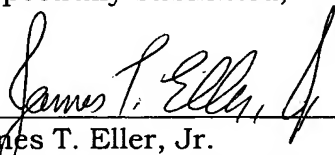
Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: September 26, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By



James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Rd

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant